

Message Text

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN 6340 VICE 6430)

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BTRA, EFIS, GV, LI
SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF NEW ENGLAND FISH CO. REPS FOX AND HARRIS

REF: ABIDJAN 7974

ABIDJAN FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

1. SUMMARY: IVAN L. FOX AND JOH B. HARRIS, NEW ENGLAND FISH COMPANY (NEFCO), SEATTLE, HAVE INFORMED EMB THEY PLAN VISIT CONAKRY LATER THIS WEEK OR EARLY NEXT WEEK. PURPOSE OF VISIT EXPLORE FEASIBILITY TAKEOVER OPERATIONS/MANAGEMENT AFRIMAR FISHING FIRM. END SUMMARY.

2. IN NOV. 20 CONVERSATION FOX AND HARRIS TOLD EMBOFFS THEIR FIRM HAD BEEN INVITED BY KLM EXPLORE POSSIBILITY MANAGE/ OPERATE GUINEAN FIRM AFRIMAR IN WHICH KLM EQUITY HOLDER. TRIP TO CONAKRY BEING ARRANGED BY ROMEO HORTON, FORMER
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LIBERIAN SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND CURRENT FIGUREHEAD PRESIDENT

OF BANK OF LIBERIA (A COMMERCIAL BANK AFFILIATED WITH CHEMICAL BANK OF N.Y.). WITH HORTON, NEFCO REPS PLAN CHARTER AIRCRAFT VISIT CONAKRY SOMETIME BETWEEN NOV. 21 AND DEC. 2 SURVEY FACILITIES AND HOLD PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS. IF PRELIMINARY OUTLOOK FAVORABLE, NEFCO PREPARED BRING FROM U.S. OR CANADA TWO 85 FT. SHRIMP TRAWLERS MAKE TRIAL CATCH. IF NEFCO EVENTUALLY DECIDES GO AHEAD WITH AFRIMAR VENTURE THEY WOULD NOT RPT NOT TAKE EQUITY POSITION. THIS CONVEYED TO KLM OFFICIALS BY FOX AND HARRIS DURING RECENT VISIT AMSTERDAM.

3. EMB RECOMMENDED, AND NEFCO REPS AGREED, THEY KEEP US NOTIFIED OF PLANS SO THAT EMBASSY CONAKRY CAN BE ALERTED PROPOSED VISIT. FOX AND HARRIS WISH DISCUSS AFRIMAR SITUATION WITH EMB OFFICIALS IN CONAKRY AND WILL CONTACT UPON ARRIVAL. EMB HAS ALSO RECOMMENDED THEY TRAVEL BY COMMERCIAL AIRCRAFT IF POSSIBLE. THEY DO NOT HAVE GUINEAN VISAS AT PRESENT BUT HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY HORTON THAT HE CAN QUICKLY OBTAIN SAME. EMB WILL ADVISE TRAVEL PLANS WHEN FINALIZED.

4. FOX AND HARRIS SAID NEFCO CONTACTED BY KLM AS RESULT REPORTED SEKOU TOURE DISSATISFACTION MESURADO CORP. (STEPHEN TOLBERT) FAILURE PERFORM AS PREVIOUSLY AGREED RE DEVELOPMENT GUINEAN SHRIMP FISHERIES AND CONSEQUENT LOSS POTENTIAL FOREIGN EXCHANGE EARNINGS AS WELL AS SUPPLY INCIDENTAL FISH CATCH TO DOMESTIC MARKET. IN VIEW TOLBERT INTEREST THIS SUBJECT EMB HAS ADVISED FOX AND HARRIS BE CIRCUMSPECT IN CONVERSATIONS WHILE IN MONROVIA. HAVE ALSO ADVISED THEM SEEK OPPORTUNITY FOR PRIVATE (WITHOUT HORTON) MEETING WITH EMBOFFS IN CONAKRY.

T. FYI: BRITISH SUBJECT WITH CLOSE CONTACTS MESURADO'S EXPATRIATE STAFF TOLD EMBOFF ON NOV. 19 THAT MESURADO NOW ALL SET MOVE INTO GUINEA.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: EMB UNDERSTANDS "VICTORY" CELEBRATION PLANNED FOR CONAKRY NOV. 22 AND PRESUMES FOX AND HARRIS VISIT AROUND THAT DATE NOT ADVISABLE. WOULD APPRECIATE AMEMBASSY CONAKRY'S ADVISE REGARDING TIMING NEFCO REPS' VISIT AND ANY COMMENTS ON AFRIMAR PROPOSAL.
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Message Attributes

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